

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ROME 04357 171338Z

53

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 171300Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6406

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T ROME 4357

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR, LE

SUBJECT: LEBANESE PRESIDENCY

1. THE LEBANESE AMBASSADOR TO THE HOLY SEE, BOUTROS DIB, CALLED ON ME THIS MORNING AT HIS REQUEST. HE EXPRESSED GREAT CONCERN OVER THE SITUATION IN LEBANON, INDICATING THAT HE HAD BEEN IN TOUCH WITH PEOPLE THERE WHO WERE URGING HIM TO OFFER HIMSELF AS A POSSIBLE REPLACEMENT FOR PRESIDENT FRANJIEH.
2. DIB EMPHASIZED THAT HE HOPES FRANJIEH WILL REMAIN IN OFFICE; HOWEVER, ASSUMING THAT FRANJIEH MUST LEAVE, DIB SAID HE WAS GIVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO HIS OWN ACTIONS. HE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT BEFORE COMING TO A FINAL CONCLUSION HE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHETHER HIS CANDIDACY WOULD POSE ANY PROBLEMS FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.
3. I TOLD HIM THAT, OF COURSE, I HAD NO BACKGROUND ON THE SITUATION IN LEBANON AND COULD GIVE HIM NO IMMEDIATE RESPONSE BUT I WOULD UNDERTAKE TO INFORM THE DEPARTMENT OF HIS APPROACH AND THAT IF THERE WERE ANYTHING TO REPORT I WOULD BE IN TOUCH WITH HIM AGAIN.
4. REQUEST GUIDANCE. VOLPE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESIDENT, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAR 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** vogelfj  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976ROME04357  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X2  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760100-0912  
**From:** ROME  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760351/aaaabsxu.tel  
**Line Count:** 51  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 1  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** vogelfj  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2004 by vogelfj>  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEBANESE PRESIDENCY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, LE, US, (DIB, BOUTROS)  
**To:** STATE BEIRUT  
**Type:** TE  
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